

5       **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1.       A spindle motor for use in a disc drive comprising  
          a shaft supporting a thrust plate at one end thereof,  
          a sleeve surrounding the shaft and adjacent the thrust plate and cooperating  
10       with the shaft to define a journal bearing and the thrust plate to define a first fluid  
          thrust bearing,  
          a counterplate welded to upraised axial arms of said sleeve and located  
          adjacent said thrust plate to define a second fluid dynamic thrust bearing,  
          the welded counterplate containing fluid within the thrust bearings and the  
15       journal bearing.
2.       A spindle motor as claimed in claim 1 wherein the shaft is fixed and the  
          sleeve and counterplate rotate relative to the shaft.
- 20       3.       A spindle motor as claimed in claim 2 wherein the sleeve supports a hub  
          for supporting a disc for rotation about the shaft.
4.       A spindle motor as claimed in claim 1 wherein the shaft is free to rotate  
          relative to the sleeve and counterplate.
- 25       5.       A spindle motor as claimed in claim 4 wherein the sleeve and counterplate  
          are fixed to a base which supports the motor.
6.       A spindle motor as claimed in claim 5 wherein the shaft supports a hub for  
30       rotation over said base.
7.       A spindle motor as claimed in claim 6 wherein the hub supports one or more  
          discs for rotation.

- 5           8.       A spindle motor for use in a disc drive comprising  
              a shaft supporting a thrust plate at one end thereof,  
              a sleeve surrounding the shaft and adjacent the thrust plate and cooperating  
              with the shaft to define a journal bearing and the thrust plate to define a first fluid  
              thrust bearing,  
10           a counterplate supported between upraised axial arms of said sleeve and  
              located adjacent said thrust plate to define a second fluid dynamic thrust bearing,  
              means for containing fluid within the thrust bearings and the journal bearing.
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